

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
MCT-01 SY-05 /067 W
-----064011 111652Z /20

R 100830Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3450
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USAREUR HEIDELBERG
USAFE RAMSTEIN
USCINCEUR STUTTGART

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MIL ADDEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT GW
SUBJ: LATE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE SCHLEYER ABDUCTION - DEMAND
FOR POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES

1. ON A MARCH 8, 1978 VISIT TO THE NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIAN
(NRW) LANDTAG (PARLIAMENT) A CONGEN STAFF MEMBER NOTED THAT
THE PRINCIPAL TOPIC OF CORRIDOR DISCUSSION WAS THE MANNER
IN WHICH VITAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE SEPTEMBER 5,
1977 ABDUCTION OF EMPLOYERS PRESIDENT HANNS MARTIN
SCHLEYER WAS HANDLED. CDU DEPUTIES WERE CALLING FOR THE
RESIGNATION OF THE NRW INTERIOR MINISTER DR. BURKHARD
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HIRSCH (FDP) AND THAT, ON FEDERAL LEVEL, INTERIOR
MINISTER PROF. DR. WERNER MAIHOFFER (FDP) SHOULD
FOLLOW SUIT. SOME MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ALSO TOOK
THE SAME LINE, ALLUDING TO THE ENFORCED RESIGNATION
OF BADEN -WUERTTEMBERG JUSTICE MINISTER BENDER OVER
THE STAMMHEIM SUICIDES AND ARMS CACHES.

2. SPD/FDP COALITION DEPUTIES WERE QUIETER BUT SOME DID NOT RULE OUT POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES WITHOUT QUESTIONING THE MINISTERS' PROBITY.

3. BACKGROUND: IN EARLY MARCH, IT WAS REVEALED THAT THE NRW POLICE HAD HAD VITAL INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE SCHLEYER ABDUCTION, THE PASSAGE OF WHICH HAD BEEN NEGLIGENTLY DELAYED AND WHICH WAS FINALLY LOST. THE INFORMATION CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. IN JULY 1977, A WOMAN RENTED AN APARTMENT IN ERFSTADT-LIEBLAR NEAR COLOGNE UNDER THE NAME OF LOTTMANN-BUECKLER, USING THE IDENTITY CARD OF A NORTH GERMAN WOMAN, WHO REPORTEDLY HAS NO CONNECTION WITH THE TERRORIST SCENE. HOWEVER, THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURE OF THE LATTER LADY WAS THE RATHER FREQUENT LOSS OF HER ID CARDS AND PASSPORTS (BETWEEN 1970 AND 1977, 4 ID CARDS AND 2 PASSPORTS). THIS FEATURE WON HER A PLACE IN THE COMPUTER OF THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT (BKA). THE BROKERS FEE FOR THE APRATMENT WAS PAID IN CASH AND SUBSEQUENT MONTHLY RENT PAYMENTS WERE MADE PUNCTUALLY BY FOUR DIFFERENT PERSONS VIA BANKS AND SAVINGS BANKS THROUGHOUT THE FRG. AN ANALYSIS OF THEIR HANDWRITING REVEALED THAT THE FOUR PERSONS WERE CHRISTIAN KLAR, WILLI-PETER STOLL, ADELHEID SCHULZ AND MONIKA HELBING, THE LATTER OF WHOM HAD RENTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE APARTMENT. ALL OF THEM WERE SUBSEQUENTLY SOUGHT BY THE POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SCHLEYER ABDUCTION.

B. ON MARCH 8, 1978, THE DUSSELDORF LANDESKRIMINALAMT (LKA) CONFIRMED THAT THE LOCAL POLICE HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING THE APARTMENT TWO DAYS AFTER THE SCHLEYER ABDUCTION BUT DELAYED ITS PASSAGE FOR TWO DAYS. THE LKA DELAYED THE MESSAGE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS AND THE BKA FAILED TO PASS IT THROUGH THE COMPUTER, WHICH WOULD HAVE REACTED IMMEDIATELY TO THE NAME BUECKLER. ONLY A COPY OF THE LOCAL POLICE FILE COULD BE FOUND; THE COPIES OF THE LKA AND THE BKA ARE MISSING (UNAUFFINDBAR).

C. HIRSCH, AS CHIEF OF THE NRW POLICE, GALLANTLY DEFENDED HIS POLICE CORPS, CLAIMED THAT IN RETROSPECT IT WAS EASY TO PASS JUDGEMENT AND CONCEDED THAT IN THOSE HECTIC DAYS MISTAKES WERE BOUND TO BE MADE. IT WAS RELUCTANTLY ADMITTED (MAIHOFFER) THAT A TIMELY REACTION TO THE INFORMATION MIGHT POSSIBLY, UNDER GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES, HAVE SAVED SCHLEYER'S LIFE. BLIGH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PARTY UNITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DUSSEL00440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780109-1114
Format: TEL
From: DUSSELDORF
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780384/aaaacsuo.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ecb0acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3376979
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LATE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE SCHLEYER ABDUCTION - DEMAND FOR POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES
TAGS: PINT, GE, NRW, (SCHLEYER, HANNS MARTIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ecb0acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014